

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicants : Rhodes et al.  
Serial No. : 09/008,531  
Filed : January 16, 1998  
Title : METHOD OF MAKING A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING  
IMPROVED CONTACTS  
Docket No. : MIO0012V2  
Examiner : Michael Manh Trinh  
Art Unit : 2823

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231  
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Sir:

AMENDMENT

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed January 15, 2003. Entry of the amendment is requested as it is believed that the amendments and remarks below are responsive to new grounds of rejection made by the Examiner and place the application in condition for allowance. Additionally, the amendments will at least reduce the number of issues for appeal.

CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDMENTS

A version of the amendments showing the markings is provided in a separate appendix attached to this paper.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 26-30, 35-36, 40-43, and 48.

21. (Four times Amended) A process for making a semiconductor device comprising the steps of:

providing a substrate having at least one semiconductor layer;

forming an underlayer having an opening over the at least one semiconductor layer;

**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET****TO: Examiner Trinh, Art Unit 2823**Company: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Fax No.: 703-872-9319**FROM: Julie G. Cope**

Date: March 12, 2003

Pages: 12 (including cover page)

Our Docket No.: MIO 0012 V2

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*Patents, Trademarks and Related Matters*  
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